

THE INFO CHANNEL

RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCAST ENGINEERS NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL 1220

FEBRUARY 2007

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

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Sisters and Brothers:

We really would like to save some trees—and some money for your Local Union. Please give us your email address. You can accomplish this by simply emailing us at info@ibew1220.org. We promise we wont spam you.



We have recently completed the 2006 audit reports and the audit materials requested by our 6th Dist Rep. Year end items have been completed. Your Union records are in good order.

We have been negotiating with WCIU, WYCC (have requested a mediator) and WCEV (Jim Sterne leads on this) as well as with the two video production contractors who do sports/broadcasting work (Chuck Mason leads on this project – with Kim Nicole assisting).

We conducted a successful Utility class and have coded our new 2007 Utility workers and made the first calls for this type of work. Our trainers were Kim Nicole assisted by Andy Fontana. Thanks to WTTW for providing the studio space and equipment and Corplex for additional materials.

We held grievance meetings at WTTW (working on a case for an employee who is ill), WBBM (settled a possible ICAP; settled an outstanding grievance; proposed several other settlements) and one here for WGN (a terminated employee). Our attorney is working on a motion to dismiss for a lawsuit filed against us

We are preparing for a mandatory Officer Training session to be held 3-19 3:00 pm at a De Paul O'Hare Campus classroom. I have asked our officers to contact this office if they need a "Union leave of absence" letter.

I am 2/3rds of the way through the production of an employee manual. After completion I will share it with the officers first and then the membership. A written accounting procedures policy has been requested by the auditors and I will work on that as well.

I have prepared a survey for the members at WTTW and will distribute it in the near future.

I have attended an IBEW Fox semi annual meeting and talked to the crews working the NASCAR race.

I have been encouraged by our officers to attend NAB again to continue my education on new broadcast technology and will be making plans for that.

Jim Sterne volunteered as a trainer for the High School negotiating day at Morton West this month arranged by DePaul Labor Ed Program. The DePaul Labor Education Program summer fundraiser is set for June 10th.

Our Union staff are all working as pledge volunteers at WTTW on 3-18 from 11:45 – 4:45 pm.

Local 1220 is co-hosting an ENG Safety Training class in conjunction with NABET and Com Ed – currently scheduled for the 3rd week in May. Thanks to Tom Schnecke and WBBM TV for providing the space for this valuable event. All Chicago crews will be welcomed.

In Solidarity

Madeleine Monaco

NEXT MEETING DATE

Thursday, April 5, AT 7PM

AT THE UNION OFFICE

Come in and discuss the business of your Local Union

We need to plan for the long range goals of the Local.

Your input would be welcome.



INFO CHANNEL

March 2007

This Newsletter is published monthly by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 1220, Radio and Television Broadcast Engineers, of Chicago, Illinois.

Anything you might expect to read in a business letter or see in a telegram that pertains to this Local and your part in it will be communicated to you through this channel of information. Consider this your dues invoice, your by-laws update, your meeting notice, and your call to participate.

Any article submitted for publication should be sent by mail, Fax or email to:

Jim Sterne, Editor Info Channel
Radio + TV Broadcast Engineers
8605 W Bryn Mawr Suite 309
Chicago, IL 60631
FAX 773-693-0009
EMAIL jim@ibew1220.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Any member wishing to bring an issue of concern to the attention of the Executive Board of this Local Union may submit a request in writing to the Board at any time, [stating the reason for the request.](#)



**REMEMBER TO NOTIFY
YOUR UNION OF ANY
CHANGE OF ADDRESS,
PHONE OR EMAIL**

NAME _____
STREET _____
CITY,ST,ZIP _____
PHONE _____
EMAIL _____

COPIES OF ANY IBEW 1220 AGREEMENT MAY BE OBTAINED UPON REQUEST AT THE UNION OFFICE
Our contractors are listed on the web site—www.ibew1220.org

JENN'S TAKE.....

Utility class was a smashing success. WTTW has an outstanding bargaining unit that was of great assistance to Kimberly Nicole, who taught the class. Kim is a terrific planner (nice fiber optic demo!), amazing teacher, fine evaluator, and a good Sister to our Local. Thank you for your dedication to provide quality technicians to our contractors.

Employee Free Choice Act (Bill HR 800) or (EFCA) is gaining momentum. This bill would provide relief from the major political setbacks that Labor has endured. At the AFSCME rally I attended, representing 1220 in support of the Resurrection Health Care Workers, both Durbin and Obama, our IL Senators support it.

If you live outside Illinois, contact your Senator to support this bill. It's time to level the playing field, between the working/middle class and large corporations.

Resolutions were passed to support Naisy Dollar in the 50th and Leroy Jones, Jr. in the 21st Ward in the April 17th Aldermanic run-off election. If you live in either of those wards—support the Union friendly candidates.

Please call the union office when you have concerns. Don't listen to rumors; just ask us. If we can't tell you something, we will explain the situation as it currently exists. E-mail works great, too. Nice organization to get that group from WCIU to the union meeting – band together like that when you face the Company!

On March 15, 1917 the United States Supreme Court approved the eight hour act, under pressure from the railroad workers. A year later, the Chicago Stockyards workers had the "The Eight Hour Day". The rest is history. We all gained from standing together. Remember: United we bargain, divided we beg...

THANK YOU!!

Jennifer Kastigar
jenn@ibew1220.org



March 2, 2007

To: All IBEW Local Union Business Managers in the United States

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

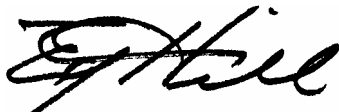
On Saturday, May 12, 2007, the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) will conduct the 15th Annual NALC National Food Drive. This is our country's largest one-day event to combat hunger and IBEW members can help by placing a box or can of non-perishable food next to their mailbox prior to the delivery of their mail Saturday, May 12th.

Last year, working in conjunction with the AFL-CIO Community Services network and other community organizations, the NALC collected 70.5 million pounds of food that was sorted and delivered to area food banks and pantries to assist those in need. It is estimated that more than 35 million people face hunger each day in America, including 12 million children and 1.5 million older people. With the middle class under attack, it is more important than ever that we join our brothers and sisters in helping those less fortunate.

We encourage you and your local union to participate by publicizing the May 12, 2007, food drive amongst your members. Attached you will find a flyer for posting in your local union hall, as you deem appropriate.

Your generosity and participation in making this event a success is greatly appreciated.

With best wishes, we are
Fraternally yours,



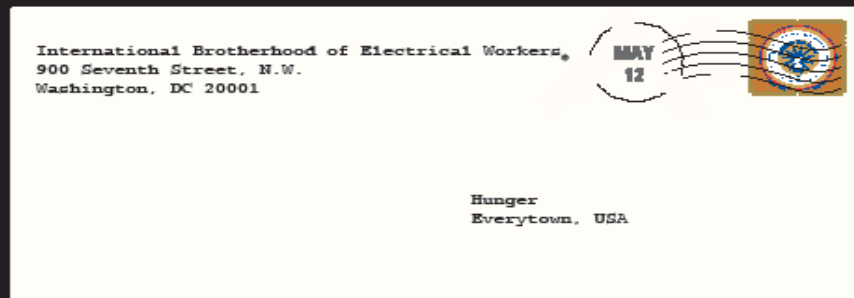
Edwin D. Hill
International President



Jon F. Walters
International Secretary-Treasurer

Help Us Stamp Out Hunger

15th Annual National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive



We urge you to join your union sisters and brothers in assisting those less fortunate by participating in the 15th Annual National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive, the nation's largest one-day event combating hunger.

By placing a box or can of nonperishable food next to your mailbox prior to the delivery of your mail on May 12, 2007, you will help feed the estimated 35 million people, including 12 million children and 1.5 million elderly, who face hunger each day in our country.

Please join us in this fight.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This month, all officers have been invited to a training seminar lead by our new International Representative, Rick Gessler. This mandatory training will take place on Monday, March 19 at the De Paul University O'Hare Campus at River and Devon. This will be a great opportunity for our newly elected officers and our experienced officers to get some insight into the policies and functions of the International Office. Rick is a long time union member having started work with Illinois Bell and is now one of the Sixth District Representatives. Rick was one of the reps assigned to our local to assist in the second election last year. His insight and assistance was critical to getting through the difficulties of checks and balances in that election.

As some of you know, there are several negotiations currently in progress. WYCC, WCIU and WCEV are all active at this point, with WTTW opening this summer. As we moved into the new century, company management took an increasingly harder approach to negotiations. This was in part due to changes in labor law and partly to the empty promise of union disintegration. Management has fought harder in the expectation that the unions will self implode and fall apart. In so doing, they believe their fight will hasten the process. As you know, unions are here to stay, at least for the near future. We protect the rights of our coworkers (and ourselves) by standing together and supporting the collective bargaining process. Many employers will use several techniques to try and disrupt this process. Don't fall for these obvious pitfalls. One technique is to find a person or persons and pay them a higher wage to get them on the company side. They will see little reason to stick with the group since the company is already treating them very well. The fallacy here is the usual fallback to original wages once the contract is complete. The company may also use one of the shop members to act as a portal of info about union activity. This is a two-way street as the unwitting member feeds the company information and the company in return supplies false data and rumor back to the shop. The responsibility for you who are negotiating is to recognize these tactics when they occur and to combat them with the integrity of a good union member. This is not the time to passing along rumors, if it doesn't come from your union reps, it is likely untrue. Members should be especially vigilant of contract violations during this time and make these violations known to their stewards. Workers should also be careful to arrive on time, keep sick leave to a minimum, and speak with professionalism when dealing with non-union coworkers. We can fight like mad at the table but if the shop is not standing behind the negotiators, nothing will be accomplished. This is the time to stand firm, stand together and stand as a Union.

We are still in need of a Recording Secretary. Is there no one out there who can serve this local with a few hours of service each month? Your Union needs you! Your fellow union workers need you. Ask yourself if you can make a small effort to fill a very important position and serve our many members. This is your chance to become a Union Officer. Please think seriously about helping out, and contact myself or the union office. See you next month, Thursday, April 5 at 7:00 PM.

Fraternally,

Al Skierkiewicz

YOUNION NEWS

FIRST READINGS

Thomas Lustyk—Visions Ultd. Matthew R Bier III - WTVO

HONORARY WITHDRAWAL

The following members have met the requirements for the granting of this status:

Javier Estrella – left Goodyear

Joelvanny Hernandez – left WYCC – in sales

NEW MEMBERS

Chelsea Matter – WGN Newswriter

Thomas Bubulka – Camera Originals

RETIRED MEMBERS

Bonnie Bloom checked in with us last month. Her second career as a kennel owner is thriving. She can be found most days at Lucky Dog Pet Services on Elston—and sends her best wishes to old friends and co-workers.

SHAMROCKS FOR KIDS—MERCY HOME

Stop in to the Union office or send your donation to support this worthy program. \$2.00 for a shamrock pin and a good feeling.

SAFETY TRAINING

We are setting up safety training to be held with NABET at WBBM studios. Notice will be sent to all of the date & time.

GET WELL WISHES:

To Charles Evans (WTTW) who is home recovering from a recent illness. Take care and get better soon!

HELP A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

The Chicago Public Schools have a wonderful program now called 'Education to Careers' Contact Jakki Dace at jhdace@cps.k12.il.us or 773-553-5077 for details on how you can provide career direction and goal development for our kids.

LOCAL 1220 BLOOD DRIVE

There is a shortage of blood in Chicago and we can participate in the solution by giving blood. Make an appointment or just drop in to any LifeSource location (find them on line) and tell them your blood drive code is "MRNB" You could save 3 lives today!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REACH US BY EMAIL???

INFO@IBEW1220.ORG

THE NEXT REGULAR UNION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
THURSDAY, APRIL 5TH AT 7:00 PM

DUES ARE DUE 4-1-07

PHONE (773) 714-1220

FAX (773) 693-0009

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